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THE EARLIEST NAME OF THE SNOWBERRY.

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FOR more than a century the ornamental shrub cultivated in gardens under the name of Snowberry has been almost universally known by the name *Symphoricarpos racemosus* given it by Michaux¹ in 1803. Nevertheless the species had been described by Linnaeus² half a century before in the first edition of the *Species Plantarum* as *Vaccinium album*, a name based solely on specimens collected by Kalm in Pennsylvania and preserved in the Linnaean Herbarium and in the British Museum. The specific name and character remained unchanged through the various editions of the *Species Plantarum*, and the Linnaean diagnosis is repeated without remark in the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth editions of the *Systema*. Meanwhile Lamarck³ in 1783 took up the name for the plant now known as *Vaccinium canadense* Richardson,⁴ of which he was the first to publish a description. Pursh⁵ described under the same name a form of *Vaccinium stamineum* L., and was followed in this error by Sprengel⁶ in the sixteenth edition of the *Systema*. Then in 1834 G. Don,⁷ ap-

¹ Mx. Fl. Bor.-Am. i. 107 (1803).

² L. Sp. Pl. i. 350 (1753).

³ Lam. Ency. i. 73 (1783).

⁴ Commonly accredited to "Kalm ex Richardson," but the original description, as well as the type specimens in the British Museum, clearly shows that Kalm had nothing to do with the name. *V. vacillans* "Kalm ex Torr." is in somewhat similar case; as shown by Britten (*Journ. Bot.* xlii. 55 (1905)), Kalm, although quoted as its author by Torrey in the original publication, had no connection whatever with the name, Solander, who was not mentioned by Torrey and so cannot be quoted as author of the species, having been the real name of the plant, which should be called *V. vacillans* ["*vaccillans*"] Torr.

⁵ Pursh, Fl. Am. Sept. i. 162 (1814).

⁶ Spreng. Sys. ed. 16. ii. 210 (1825).

⁷ G. Don, Gen. Hist. iii. 448, 853 (1834).

parently influenced by a note of Smith's on the sheet in the Linnaean Herbarium, identified the name with Pursh's¹ *Xylosteum ciliatum* β . *album*, described as new from specimens collected "on the Rocky-mountain" by Lewis, which according to Nuttall² is "*Symphoria racemosa* of Michaux,³ now cultivated in several gardens near Philadelphia from seeds collected by the late governor Lewis." Later authors, such as Gray,⁴ Britton and Brown,⁵ and the Index Kewensis, have been content to refer the Linnaean *Vaccinium album* to *Lonicera ciliata* Muhl. (= *L. canadensis* Marsh.) itself, and the combination *Lonicera alba* (not of L. Sp. Pl., which is *Chiococca alba* (L.) Hitchc.) has recently been made on purely synonymic grounds by Druce,⁶ without reference to the easily accessible Linnaean type.

The type specimen in the Linnaean Herbarium represents the typical form of *Symphoricarpos racemosus* Mx., which, as shown by Fernald⁷ some years ago, is not the ordinary glabrous-leaved garden plant as had long been supposed, but the more common eastern form with leaves densely pilose, and somewhat paler but not whitened, on the under surface. On the sheet is written in Linnaeus' hand "4 album K"; in pencil in an early hand (not known to Mr. B. D. Jackson, who kindly examined it) is the note "baccis albis," from which Linnaeus evidently drew his specific name; J. E. Smith has signified his opinion that the plant is a *Lonicera*; and Gray has marked it *Symphoricarpos racemosus*, although he never published this determination, but still referred it to *Lonicera ciliata* when last writing on it in 1878. The Snowberry must accordingly drop the name it has borne so long and be called

SYMPHORICARPOS albus (L.) Blake, n. comb. *Vaccinium album* L. l. c. (1753). *Symphoricarpos racemosus* Mx. l. c. (1803); Fernald, l. c. (1905). *Lonicera racemosa* (Mx.) Pers. Syn. i. 214 (1805). *Symphoria racemosa* (Mx.) Pursh, l. c. (1814). *Symphoria leucocarpa* Hort., *S. heterophylla* Presl, & *S. elongata* Presl, in DC. Prod. iv. 339 (1830), as syn. *Symphoria albus* Raf. New Fl. iii. 21 (1836). *Symphoricarpos albus* "Raf." K. Koch, Dendr. ii. pt. 2. 407 (index) (1873).

¹ Pursh, Fl. Am. Sept. i. 161 (1814).

² Nutt. Gen. i. 138 (1818).

³ This was the form used by Pursh (Fl. i. 162), not Michaux.

⁴ Gray, Syn. Fl. ii. pt. i. 201 (1878).

⁵ Britton & Brown, Ill. Fl. iii. 241 (1898).

⁶ Bot. Exch. Club Rept. 1913. iii. pt. 5. 420 (1914).

⁷ Fernald, RHODORA vii. 164-167 (1905).

(*Symphoria albus* [a] Raf. l. c. is a nomen nudum, applied to the Snow-berry quite without reference to *V. album* L., and *Symphoricarpos albus* Koch occurs only as a pure synonym of *S. racemosus*, so treated by Koch himself (and wrongly ascribed to Rafinesque), likewise having no connection with the name *Vaccinium album* L.). *Lonicera alba* (L.) Druce l. c. (1914), as to name only.

S. ALBUS var. **pauciflorus** (Robbins) Blake, n. comb. *Symphoricarpos racemosus* var. *pauciflorus* Robbins in Gray, Man. ed. 5, 203 (1867), in part; emend. Fernald, l. c. *Symphoricarpos pauciflorus* (Robbins) Britton, Mem. Torr. Club. v. 305 (1894), in part.

S. ALBUS var. **laevigatus** (Fernald) Blake, n. comb. *Symphoricarpos racemosus* var. *laevigatus* Fernald, l. c. 167 (1905). *S. racemosus* of most auth., not Mx.

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THE GENUS *RUPPIA* IN EASTERN NORTH AMERICA.

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(Plate 110.)

DURING our field-work of 1911, a tiny *Ruppia* was collected in tidal pools at Norris Arm in eastern Newfoundland, which differed very strikingly from the ordinary plant which we had known as *R. maritima*. Later, after our return from Newfoundland, somewhat similar, but in some characters quite different, material, collected as an unusual plant by Dr. B. M. Duggar on Naushon Island, was referred to us for study; and in the explorations of Prince Edward Island and the Magdalen Islands by Messrs. Fernald, Long and St. John a special point was made of watching *Ruppia*, with the result that they got several extreme plants such as we rarely see on the Atlantic coast of the United States. Examination of these plants and the material in the Gray Herbarium, the herbarium of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and the herbarium of the New England Botanical Club, in the light of the recent treatments of the genus in Europe shows that we have in America many more well defined forms of *Ruppia* than has been generally supposed and that, to a great extent,